



**Assistance League® of Omaha
Annual Report 2019-2020**

**Linda Primm, President
Betsy McDaniel, President-Elect**

Mission Statement: Assistance League volunteers transforming the lives of children and adults through community programs.

Vision Statement: Essential needs are met in our community and families flourish.

Motto: Transforming Lives • Strengthening Community

Our many thanks and appreciation to St. John Vianney, Champions Run Country Club, Great Western Bank and Two Men and a Truck for their continued support of Assistance League of Omaha.



In Memory of members who have passed this year:

*Donna Holmes
April 6, 2020*

PHILANTHROPIC PROGRAMS
First Vice President Rosella Squires

ACT/PSAT Review 2019-2020

Chairman: Julie Gentleman **Co-Chairman:** Julie Harmon

Leona Brakke, Jane Brawner, Carmen Draper, Mary Duffy, Sally Findley, Julie Gentleman, Julie Harmon, Kathy Hitzemann, Peggy Johnson, Judy Leise, Sandy Luedtke, Lynn Perry, Mary Pilant, Jan Sorensen, Sandy Sullivan, Kathy Vojtech, Linda Wohlers.

Goals:

- Provide low-cost ACT/PSAT basic review classes to high school students in the Omaha metro area
- Prepare students for the ACT/PSAT tests by building confidence and alleviating test anxiety through the provision of test-taking tips and strategies

High Schools with Student Participants:

1. ACT Review Sessions: 15 schools
High School with greatest number of ACT participants were:
Omaha South (13), (March 19th session was cancelled due to schools were closed)
2. PSAT Review Sessions: 12 high schools
High Schools with greatest number of PSAT participants were:
Millard West (13), and Papillion/LaVista South (11)

Students Served

1. ACT Basic Review (One session) (March 19th session cancelled - schools were closed)
Pre-Registration: (\$30 Fee) 77
Pre-Registration No-Shows: (\$30 Fee) 31 and (Waivers) 52
On-Site Participants: (\$35 Fee) 6
Waiver Participants: 52
Total ACT Participants: 51
Average ACT Participants per Session: 51 (*in 2018-19, the average was 13*)
2. PSAT Basic Review (Two sessions)
Pre-Registration Attendees: (\$15 Fee) 48
Pre-Registration No-Shows: (\$15 Fee) 4
On-Site Participants (\$20 Fee): 15
Waiver Participants: 8
Total PSAT Participants: 56 (*in 2018-19, 80 students participated*)

Budget: \$3500

Volunteer hours: 132

Assault Survivor Kits® 2019-2020

Chairman: Cindy Hamm **Co-Chairman:** Pat Hutchings

Marcia Allen, Nancy Anderson, Michelle Bare, Rose Barta, Jill Bartruff, Kathy Bogseth, Jana Brawner, Judi Carr, Rita Crosland, Mary Ann David, Annette Dowd, Carmen Draper, Linda Groff, Nancy Holloran, Janine Hudak, Judith James, Carolyn McCormick, LaVonne Lee, Lynn Perry, Suzi Pierson, Michelle Pope, Linda Primm, G Shirley Schmidt, Gretchen Skar, Judy Stowell, Kathy Valasek, Katie Wallerstedt, Naomi Warner

Goals:

- Provide Assault Survivor Kits (ASK) for victims of abuse to eleven hospital ERs and two abuse shelters in the Omaha area.

By providing kits to the victims of assault and/or abuse we give the victim comfort and dignity during a very difficult time in their life. April 2019 – February 2020—total of 415 kits were distributed to hospitals and agencies. We delivered 259 summer kits and 156 winter Kits so far. Our distribution has been halted due to the Coronavirus Pandemic that hit the U.S. and City of Omaha. We have been in a Stay At Home request from the Mayor's Office. So we have stopped distribution in March 2020. We are ordering summer kits but we do not know when we will be able to assemble them at this time.

Through our partnership with Project Harmony we provide new clothing for abused children from ages zero to eighteen. June 2019 – February 2020 a total of \$1958.89 was spent for Project Harmony.

Budget: \$7000

Volunteer hours: 300

In-kind donations: snacks, waters, additional baggies

Operation Bear Hug 2019-2020

Chairman: Nancy Cooke **Co-Chairman:** Kathy Hitzemann

Karen Cirulis, Sally Domet, Anne Foster, Mary Janousek, Linda Larson, Patti Lee, Marilyn Mikula, Henrietta Pane, Judy Pelowski, Donna Richards, Sandy Sullivan, Kathy Vojtech, Jan Wobken.

Goals:

- To provide teddy bears to agencies and hospitals that deal with children who are in crisis situations
- To comfort and reassure the children in need

OBH delivered 670 bears this year. Our committee members reported that the contacts at the agencies and hospitals were very grateful and we feel that our goal was met.

Names of 15 agencies and hospitals Served:

Children's Hospital & Medical Center, UNMC Pediatric Clinic, Heartland Family Services, Project Harmony, Bellevue Medical Center, Grief's Journey, CHI Bergan Mercy Hospital ER, CHI Lakeside ER, Methodist Women's Hospital, Women's Center for Advancement, CHI Creighton University, Omaha Police Department SE Precinct, CHI Immanuel Hospital ER, Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Papillion Police Department.

Operation Bear Hug began June 2019 with 175 bears. As of April 1st, we have delivered 620 bears. 175 bears are at the Chapter House, waiting for new homes during the next year.

Budget: \$3500

Volunteer Hours: 155

Operation Literacy 2019-2020

Chairman: Jeanne Smay **Co-Chairman:** Pam DePorte

Mindy Bechaz, Diane Berzina, Elaine Craig, Mary Anne David, Shirley Eike, Nita Frost, Donna Holmes, Sara Lorentzen, Patti Lee, Trudy Musgrave, Janette Nelson, Liz Olson, Nan Poore, Donna Richards, Linda Roeder, Judy Stowell, Marty Van Ekeren, Jean Welsh.

Goals:

- The goal of Operation Literacy is to promote literacy for children and adults in the Omaha community. In collaboration with community partners and Assistance League membership this committee collects new and slightly used books which are given to community agencies and other ALO programs that support literacy

A total of approximately 3900 books have been collected to date with several boxes to count from membership donations. To date 554 books have been donated to Salvation Army but that number will rise as the committee sorts books donated by Great Western Bank.

Books will be distributed at the Celebration that will be determined at a later date to the following organizations: Open Door Mission, Siena Francis House, Heartland Family Service (Safe Haven), Catholic Charities (The Shelter), Santa Monica, Stephen Center, Youth Emergency Services, Operation School Bell and Operation Teen Parent.

To date the following books have been received by community organizations:

Youth Emergency Services-282 books	Stephen Center-60 books
Santa Monica-50 books, 8 puzzles, 9 games	Operation School Bell-175 books

Donating Partners:

ALO membership, Pinnacle Bank, Great Western Bank, Security National Bank, The Bookworm, Oakdale Elementary, Elkhorn Valley Middle School, Half Price Books, Morton Elementary

Budget: \$300

Volunteer Hours: 293

In-kind: paper, gas, stamps, boxes

Operation Recovery 2019-2020

Chairman: Maria Sorick

Nancy Anderson, Kim Arter, Sally Findley, Terri Gangestad, Winnie Holm, Donna Homes, Sara Lorentzen, Sandra Luedtke, Joanie Mathias, Susie Owens, Cheryl Palmer, Shirley Schmidt, Maria Swoboda, Janine ter Kuile, Cynthia Waltz, Jean Welsh

Goals:

- The goal of this committee is to encourage and support the residents of Santa Monica House to succeed in their treatment to overcome their dependency on drugs/alcohol.
- To act as role models as the residents learn to integrate back into the community and improve their self-confidence and self-esteem.

The residents look forward to our monthly interaction and planned activity and are always so happy to see us. There have been 16 residents at every session. Since there are varying times the residents are in care it is hard to predict the exact number of women served. In addition to our main mission of providing mentoring through sobriety, ALO also provided 21 graduation gifts

(we do not have a number for May), \$900 Metro bus passes, and \$425 vouchers to the ALO Thrift Store.

Budget: \$3400

Volunteer Hours: 195

In-kind: Toiletries, under garments, games, toys, books, skincare items. Incentives for reaching goals were air dryers, curling irons, beauty pampering kits. Treats/desserts for each monthly activity. Warm hats, gloves and/or mittens, holiday meal.

Operation School Bell® 2019-2020

Overall Leader: Suzanne Hinman

Advisors: Cheryl Bedell and Rose Sheehy

Goals:

- To clothe the maximum number of children as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- Maintain our partnerships with the 10 School Districts and 201 schools in the Greater Omaha area
- Maintain our partnership with JCPenney-Westroads

As a result of our 40 school liaisons, school personnel at 205 schools in 10 School Districts in the Greater Omaha area have developed working relationships that benefit the program as well as the community. Two Omaha Archdiocese schools were added this year. The twelve day event from October 1st to October 13th served 3690 students during sixteen four-hour shifts. The amounts allocated to each child for JCP clothing and shoes was K-2: \$100; 3-5: \$110; 6-8; \$130.

A celebration recognizing our 70,000th child served took place on October 10th.

Anne Jetter, Marketing Innovations representative, arranged for Clark Young Videography, to film the ALO OSB process and procedures to be used as a possible tutorial for other chapters. A second video will be created to use at the kick-off for the Capital Campaign. Footage from the 70,000th child served celebration was included.

Emergency Response Team dressed 24 students that were referred from the schools when Operation School Bell was not in session.

Non-member volunteers were invaluable serving as translators, shopping assistants and jobs as needed. There were a total of 83 non-member volunteers. 69 middle and high school students served as Spanish and Karen translators and shopping assistants. All student volunteers were sent a signed certificate highlighting their hours of service to Assistance League of Omaha.

ALO partnered with JCP for the annual JCP Holiday Giving Spree. One JCP had 25 deserving students come to the store where each is given a t-shirt, goodie bag plus a \$100 JCP gift card to use toward clothing and/or gifts. We invited Spring Lake Elementary where students who were not part of the October OSB event to JCP. ALO assisted with the students' shopping that day. The balance left on each of the gift cards will be totaled and given to ALO to use with emergency response.

ALO received a \$15,000 grant from the JCPenney Foundation to use toward OSB. Mike Lenz, JCP Store Manager, nominated our chapter in recognition of the work we do to better the lives of children.

Budget: \$395,600
In-kind: Barnes and Noble, Two Men and a Truck.

Volunteer Hours: 6,649

Operation Teen Parent 2019-2020

Chairman: Linda Perkins **Co-Chairman:** Judy Owens

Michelle Bare, Karen Cirulis, Pam DePorte, Mary Duffy, Diane Dugger, Cathy Grage, Carolyn Jill, Cindy Killip, Teri Layton, Judy McPeck, Janette Nelson, Suze Pullen, Jean Welsh, Laurel Zielinski

Goals:

- Encourage teen parents to stay in school by providing incentives for academic achievement, citizenship, and attendance
- Support literacy of teen parents and their children by providing children's books as well as materials and information from other entities such as the Omaha Public Library

The committee contacts Omaha Public Schools throughout the school year beginning in September. 127 students received school supplies and 2 books to build their child's library in the fall. Students also received additional supplies and books in February.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Logan's Administrative Assistant was contacted regarding the cancellation of the graduation reception scheduled for April 28th. Nancy Burkhart, school liaison, received applications from teachers/school counselors for scholarships. The applications will be reviewed at a later date. Four scholarship recipients will be chosen and notified by letter.

Budget: \$6800

Volunteer Hours: 260

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT **Second Vice President Rita Crosland**

Thrift Shop

Chairman: Linda Miller **Co-Chairman:** Chris Haifley

Scheduling Chairman: Carolyn McCormick **Co-Chairmen:** Sue Gehringer, Nancy Cooke

Bookkeeper: Barb Wilson **Back Up Bookkeeper:** Nancy Cooke

Thrift Shop Receiving

Accessories - Mary Ann Pedersen, Linda Bannister, Cynde Glismann

Books - Nancy Holloran, Judy Dappen, Cathy Grage

Clothing - Cheryl Walker, Cheryl Bedell, Marilyn Fox, Pat Hickman, Kay Mayberry, Connie Park, Marie Swodoba, Claudianna Todd, Mary Wright

Clothing Display - Phyllis Heideman, Mary Reid, Lila Zimmerman, Linda Larsen, Shirley Schmidt, Marsha Pavel

Housewares - Kathleen Forsgren, Terri Gangstad, Janell Nesler

Housewares display - Shirley Sorrel, Wanda Dittmann, Marty VanEckeren, Linda Roeder

Jewelry - Beth Reitz, Rita Seiler, Karen Spaustat

Friday Workers - Jean Welch, Terri Hickman, Judy Sartan, Judy Dappen, Cathy Grage, Sandy Pistone, Allison Barnes, Elaine Craig, Pam Deporte, Beth Kaiser, Carla Norlinger, Ann Omsted Jeanne Smay

Goals:

- To provide income for Assistance League of Omaha's philanthropic programs
- To increase visibility in the community through emails, Facebook, and other forms of publicity
- To promote an upscale Thrift Shop
- To provide well-trained and informed volunteers

The shop has been closed since March 18th because of the Corona virus and state mandates. At this time a date to reopen has not been set.

Income as of April 2020: \$87,710

Volunteer Hours: 9,828

Budget: \$13,375

In-kind: Two Men and a Truck, Posh Peacock, Champions Run

Annual Campaign

Chairman: Jean Welsh **Co-Chairmen:** Judy McPeck, Alison Barnes

Goals:

- Hold fall campaign for donors
- Hold spring campaign for members in conjunction with Omaha Gives
- Acknowledge donors to the campaigns

Sent donation request letters to previous donors for the Annual Campaign in October. Provided information in the ALO Blast, monthly newsletter and Facebook. Followed with thank you notes for all donations.

Promoted Omaha Gives Campaign in May and will follow with thank you notes to donors.

Budget: \$200

Volunteer Hours: 20

Capital Campaign

Chairman: Betsy McDaniel

Cheryl Bedell, Marilyn Chaney, Rita Crosland, Jill Floth, Chris Haifley, Suzanne Hinman, Sara Lorentzen, Linda Miller, Ann Mossberg, Linda Primm, Larry Uebner, Community Advisor.

Goals:

- Purchase a building to meet the growing needs of ALO and the community.
- Continue efforts to obtain donations and grant money.
- Monitor progress of reconstruction and the funds to pay construction bills. MET

The building was purchased in July 2019. The roof has been replaced. Calvin L. Hinz Architects were hired to provide renovation plans and manage the project. Nelson-Hill Construction was selected as the general contractor. Otis Elevator Company was selected to install an elevator. The companies were contracted following a Request for Proposal process, ALO Board approval and ALO membership approval. Construction is currently in progress and anticipated to be complete in the summer of 2020.

Budget: The budget for the Capital Campaign is not included in the regular Operating Budget. The committee members are focused on raising enough funds to cover our costs of the renovation.

Volunteer Hours: 754

Donations/Memorials/Tributes Thank You Notes

Chairman: Winnie Holm

Goals: Send acknowledgements to persons making a monetary donation, memorial or tribute.

Notes were sent to donors of donations, memorials and tributes. A note was also sent to the person designated by the donor to receive a notice of donation. The plates on the Tribute and Memorial plaques, located in the office are updated regularly. Twice a year donors are listed in the Newsletter without an amount published.

Budget: \$200

Volunteer Hours: 20

Grants

Chairman: Jeannene Mason

Kathleen Forsgren, Cathy Grage, Suzanne Hinmann, Jan Jackson, Charlene Liesveld, Kay Mayberry, Barb Schweiger, Naomi Warner

Goals:

- Meet or exceed the 2019 -2020 Budget of \$227,000. Objective met: \$249,100 raised as of April 1, 2020
- Maintain communications with grant donors throughout the year
- Research more grant opportunities
- Expand Committee training opportunities
- Coordinate with the Capital Campaign Committee and share information regarding grant sources for building fund grants

Committee success can be measured by meeting or surpassing our budget goal. It is important to be spending our time on writing grants we think have a fairly high percentage of receiving acceptance. We do, however, write a \$500 Walmart grant to all 15 stores in our area, knowing that we will only receive three or four of those grants. To this point we have written a total of 40 grants. We have not received notification of results on 19 of those 40 grants. We have received notification on 21 grants with a positive result on 20 and a denial on 1. This is a 95% success rate.

Budget: \$5000 Grant Writer Assistance

Volunteer Hours: 336 hours

Don & Millies, Shucks, Smitty's Garage

Dining Out Fundraiser

Chairman: Mary Reid

Goals:

- Improve financial strength for the event
- Raise funds for philanthropic programs

Notify, promote and encourage members and friends to participate in Dining Out events. Don & Millies was a new restaurant in September 2019 with 10% of sales donated. Shucks, Baileys =, and Dundee Dell locations raised their donation to 14% of sales. Smitty's Garage was cancelled due to Corona virus.

Budget: \$80

Volunteer Hours: 20

CHRISTMAS CARAVAN

Overall Chairman: Cheryl Shetlar **Advisor:** Leona Brakke

Goals:

- Raise funds for philanthropic programs
- Coordinate all Caravan committees as they work together to make our annual fundraiser possible and successful
- Increase fellowship and cooperation among our members as we work together on a common goal
- Increase recognition of Assistance League and our contributions to the Omaha Community
- Provide online bidding for Silent Auction

Volunteer Hours: 625

Christmas Caravan House/Florist Liaison

Chairman: Cindy Killup **Co-Chairman:** Barb Fazzini

Julie Bailey, Leona Brakke, Mary Duffy, Ann Foster, Julie Gentleman, Linda Higa, Barb Kasson, Sheila Kaczmarek, Judy Leise, Sandy Luedtke, Linda Perkins, Sandy Pistone, Carol Puffer, Kathy Rudd, Jan Sorensen, Paula Spence, Paula Steffan, Marie Swoboda, Claudianna Todd, Cheryl Walker,

Goals:

- Secure four homes to include in Tour of Homes.
- Secure four florists/designers to decorate the homes
- Recruit 20 house liaisons
- Train the house liaisons so that Caravan runs smoothly in each home
- Make sure florists are aware of their responsibilities
- Maintain communication with house liaisons and florists throughout the year

Tours of each house were scheduled, contracts were signed with homeowners and florists. Each home was provided four liaisons. Designers and house liaisons toured the home to determine flow pattern, signs, and number of staffers for each home. Homeowner received Caravan tickets and Preview Party tickets, allowance for carpet cleaning, and a gift card to purchase florist items. Florists were given tickets to sell in their shops and posters for advertising. Florists donated gift cards to be used in a raffle at the November Regular meeting. Continual communication was maintained to ensure that all responsibilities and tasks were completed.

In-kind donations: stamps, thank you notes,
folders, paper, luncheon

Volunteer hours: 1117

House #1 3325 N. 143rd Circle (Country Gardens, Blair)

Liaisons: *Claudianna Todd, Sandy Pistone, Linda Perkins, Linda Higa, Anne Foster

Goals:

- Strong communication with homeowners, florist, ALO member volunteers, and Christmas Caravan committee members
- Provide assistance to the florist and homeowner
- Open and honest dialogue with each other in order to arrive at best decision possible

In-kind donations: food, water, stamps, some supplies

Volunteer hours: 418

House #2 3320 N. 141st Street (Studio DIY & This & That & Other Stuff)

Liaisons *Leona Brakke, Barb Kasson, Judy Leise, Jan Sorensen

Goals:

- To coordinate Christmas Caravan activities at the Clure Home for Christmas Caravan 2019 and help Assistance League of Omaha raise funds for philanthropic programs
- To assist the florist and home owners, Matt and Carrie Clure, with preparations necessary for Caravan and to take all necessary precautions to guarantee the safety of the guests and protect the homeowner's property
- To coordinate and organize ALO volunteer house staffers and to provide a welcoming, safe environment for Caravan guests

In-kind donations: water, food, stamps

Volunteer hours: 193

House #3 6511 S. 172nd Avenue (The Humble Hive Mercantile)

Liaisons *Paula Spence, Sheila Kazmarek, Paula Steffan, Marie Swoboda, Cheryl Walker

Goals:

- Good communication with the home owner and florist.
- Create a smooth traffic flow through home for customers.

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 150

House #4 1402 Placid Lake Circle, Papillion (Papillion Flower Patch)

Liaisons *Mary Duffy, Julie Bailey, Julie Gentleman, Sandy Luedtke, Carol Puffer,

Goals:

- Staff the Herrold home, Papillion, for Caravan, to include, securing volunteers, assigning shifts, assigning duties with those shifts
- Volunteers are to welcome guests, thank them for coming and assure that the home was secure at all times. Volunteers were to check that guest followed the rules, for example wearing shoe covers and no photographs

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 200

Christmas Caravan House Staffing

Chairman: Barb Lacey

Goal:

- Work with house chairman to staff shifts for Caravan Houses (Preview Party and Caravan)

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 26

Christmas Caravan House Staffing Nametags

Chairman: Nan Poore

Goal:

- To create and distribute Christmas Caravan House Name Tags

Expenses: \$0
In-kind donations: ribbon, printer ink cartridges

Volunteer hours: 49

Marketing/Communications – Christmas Caravan Design, Printing & Mailing

Chairman: Lynda Chartier **Co-Chairman:** Dee O'Grady

Goals:

- To provide quality printed materials in order to optimize awareness and appreciation for the event
- To keep printing order deadlines on schedule
- To work with larger team in order to realize greater participation, and thus, greater profit for the event
- To continue to explore means of achieving greater efficiency in this committee work

Expenses: \$3518
In-kind: mileage, copy paper

Volunteer hours: 215

Christmas Caravan Ticket Tracking & Distribution

Chairman: Deann Zens

Kathy Hitzemann, Pat Hutchings, Charlene Liesveld, Marsha Pavel

Goals:

- To distribute tickets to ALO members at meetings, to florists through the House Chairs, Hy-Vee (Lisa Gallup) and on-line sales
- To promote ticket sales to raise as much money as possible to fund ALO philanthropic programs. Activities included: encouragement at ALO monthly meetings, promoting the Ten's club established in 2013 and articles in the Blast and ALO Newsletter
- To maintain a database of tickets received, returned and sold by participating Hy-Vee stores
- To maintain a database of tickets received, returned and sold by members
- To award prize money for the top two ticket sellers. Top seller - \$50, Second place - \$25
- To determine members of the Ten's Club. Drawing value - \$25. Again, we ran the Ten's Club through the final day of Christmas Caravan - encouraging members to continue to sell at least 11 tickets
- To process ticket sales and returned tickets on the day of Caravan
- To continue to record member ticket money returned post Caravan

Expenses: \$100 incentives for top ticket sales
Tickets Sold: 2,127

Volunteer hours: 145

Christmas Caravan Thrift Shop Boutique

Co-Chairman: Linda Miller & Chris Haifley

Mary Ann Petersen, Linda Bannister, Cheryl Walker, Cheryl Bedell, Marilyn Fox, Pat Hickman, Kay Mayberry, Connie Park, Kay Snyder, Mary Wright, Marie Swoboda, Claudianna Todd, Phyllis Heideman, Mary Reid, Lila Zimmerman, Linda Larsen, Shirley Schmidt, Kathleen Forsgren, Shirley Sorrel, Wanda Dittman, Marty VanEckeren, Linda Roeder, Karen Spaustat,

Rita Seiler, Carolyn McCormick, Sue Gehringer, Jeanne Smay, Pam DePorte, Beth Reitz, Judy Bruening, Glenda Lammel, Jill Bartruff. Cynde Glismann, Judy Dappen, Marsha Pavel, Alison Barnes, Elaine Craig, Pam Deporte, Teri Hickman, Beth Kaiser, Carla Noerrlinger, Ann Olmsted, Sandy Pistone, Judy Sartin, Rosella Squires, Jean Welsh, Janell Nesler

Goals:

- Maintain a friendly, professional, upscale boutique that provides quality merchandise for sale to generate income for ALO projects
- Increase customer base

Revenue generated: \$16,574

Volunteer hours: 1,052

In-kind: Champions Run, Two Men and a Truck

Christmas Caravan Treasurers

Co-Chairman: Robin Wiar & Nancy Johnson

Peggy Fread, Cynde Glismann, LaRue Roberts, Donna Lammert

Goals:

- To train cashiers on the cash register and credit card machines.
- To assure accurate handling and accounting of funds collected during the preview party and day of Caravan.
- To clearly communicate with florists concerning expectations and funds that will be distributed to them.

Surplus for Christmas Caravan was \$88,275 and includes Thrift Shop Boutique.

Christmas Caravan Preview Party

Chairman: JoAnn Lutz **Co-Chairman:** Cherie Metschke

Judith Studt, Paula Spence, Brenda Sanford, Cheryl Walker, Teri Hickman, Paula Steffen, Julie Bailey, Susie Owens, Joanie Mathias

Goals:

- To choose a menu that would be appealing to a variety of people
- To carry out the theme "Gifts of Caring" by decorating the tables with a silver sleigh filled with aqua colored gifts, white tinsel, and clear mini lights

270 guests attended the evening

Volunteer hours: 300

Christmas Caravan Preview Party Reservations

Chairman: Elaine Penkava

Preview Party Nametags Chairman: Maria Ortman

Goals:

- To take reservations, mail out Preview Party Tickets and assign tables for the Preview Party. There were 303 reservations made for the dinner
- To make name tags for Preview Party including the table numbers

Expenses: \$153

Volunteer hours: 110

Preview Party Corporate Tables

Chairman: Susie Hultman

Goals:

- It was my objective to do the final clean up on the list for corporate tables. It has taken four years to clean up the list for mailing, but it has finally been accomplished and ready now to turn it over to someone else.

A total of 8 corporations are active donors. Total donations from corporations were \$13,500.

In-kind donations: Printing and stamps

Volunteer hours: 75

Grants/Donor Invitations Preview Party

Cheryl Shetlar and Charlene Liesveld

Goals:

- To acknowledge donors with a personal thank you and two complimentary tickets for the Gala.
- To acknowledge homeowners and florists with two complimentary Gala tickets.

In-kind donations: Stationary and stamps

Volunteer hours: 5

Christmas Caravan Silent & Oral Auction

Chairman: Carol Hoffmann **Co-Chairman:** Donna Schreck

Pat Bird, Susan Carne, Sue Gehringer, Mary Kay Henningsen, Ginger Hiscock, Jan Jackson, Marilyn Mikula, Jan Moore, Janel Nesler, Candi Pospisal

Goals:

- To raise funds to support ALO programs
- To raise awareness within the community of the programs and work of the Assistance League.
- To assist in providing a festive evening for patrons and members to promote their involvement with Assistance League Omaha to transform lives and strengthen communities.

Income: Live Auction \$5,400, Silent Auction \$7,709, Giving Tree \$2,100, Heart \$10,292
Donations \$250. This year's gross income was \$25,751.

In-kind donations: Decorations, printing and photography, envelopes, cards, picture frames, paper, decorated jars, lighted Christmas trees.

Expenses: \$3,350

Volunteer hours: 750

Silent Auction Photography

Committee: Marilyn Mikula, Candi Pospisal, Donna Shreck

Goals:

- Photograph auction items
- Edit each auction item picture and put in jpeg format

- Determine the auction item categories, item numbers, and description for the Qtego spreadsheet
- Download auction item pictures and descriptions to the Qtego spreadsheet

Budget: \$0

Volunteer hours: 100

**Christmas Caravan Logistics
Traffic Monitor & Outdoor Directional Banners and Signs
Chairman: Jan Jackson Co-Chairman: Cheryl Shetlar**

Goals:

- **To control traffic on streets where caravan houses were located**
- **Place 'no parking' signs on one side of the caravan street so that cars or Ollie the Trolley could safely drive through that street.**
- **Direct traffic to designated parking spots for caravan guests**

In-kind donations: paper, stamps, envelopes, bottled water, snacks, thank you notes

Volunteer hours: 35

**Christmas Caravan Yard Signs
Chairman: Marilyn Chaney**

Goals:

- Work with Committee Chair and House Chairs to provide house signs as needed, in a timely manner and deliver to House Chairs
- Order/print additional signs that are requested and approved by the Committee Chair
- Distribute yard signs to members at Regular Meetings in time for placement in their yards

Expenses: \$27.82

Volunteer hours: 18

**Christmas Caravan First Aid/Insurance
Chairman: LaVonne Lee**

Goals:

- Make sure that all policies are updated and that we have the proper coverage for all properties and activities.
- Make sure that Caravan and all ALO activities are run safely for patrons and staff and that procedures are in place should an accident occur.

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 12

**Christmas Caravan House Supplies
Chairman: Nita Frost Co-Chairman: Elaine Craig
Betsy McDaniel**

Goals:

- Provide a simple and concise Christmas Caravan House Supply form to the House Chairs, Bake Sale and Boutique

- Purchase any supplies that are needed for each house
- Communicate and arrange needed supplies to be rented
- Assemble supplies for each house
- Pick up and inventory supplies at the end of the event
-

Expenses: \$1,770.87

Volunteer hours: 104.5

Christmas Caravan Bake Sale

Chairman: Marcia Allen **Co-Chairman:** Henrietta Pane

Judy Dappen, Sharon Davis, Elaine Craig, Teri Hickman, Carolyn McCormick, Rose Sheehy, Judith Studt, Kathleen Valasek

Goals:

- Our main goal this year was to challenge the membership to participate by contributing as much or more than last year
- To equal or surpass last year's profit
- To improve the packaging of the goods to keep fresh, sanitary attractive

In-kind donations: HyVee donated plastic bags,

Volunteer hours: 125

Members donated ribbon, saran wrap, tape

MEMBERSHIP

Third Vice President Dee O'Grady

Annual Meeting Celebration

Co-Chairman: Jan Jackson & Kathy Hitzemann

Jan Frank, Kathy Hayduska, Teri Hickman, Susie Hultman, Linda Larson, Terri Layton, Marsha Pavel

Goals:

- End of year celebration with games and luncheon
- Initiation of new Board of Directors
- End of year highlights given by ALO President
- Awards of Fran Batchelder and Ada Edwards given
- The meeting was held via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 65

Enrichment Day

Chairman: Judy Sartin **Co-Chairman:** Ann Olmsted

Pat Botdorf, Jane Murray, Trudy Musgrave, Pam Phillips, Cynthia Rose, Jan Zieg

Goals:

- Social and Educational Event for attendees
- Assist new members in establishing rapport with active members
- Public outreach for prospective new members and others in the community

Enrichment Day took place at the Happy Hollow Club during National Action Week, February 23-29. Members' donated new books for Operation School Bell® as part of National Action Week.

Games and prizes were provided. The speaker was Darrel Draper, as Teddy Roosevelt, arranged through the Nebraska Humanities Council.

Expenses: \$3,079.45

Volunteer hours: 148

In-kind donations: computer supplies, greenery, pine cones

Holiday Brunch 2019

Chairman: Dee O'Grady

Kim Adle, Carolyn Jill, Nancy R. Johnson

Goals:

- To have a relaxing and fun event for our members with a delicious brunch, excellent entertainment and beautifully decorated tables
- The Brunch also serves as a "Thank You" to our members for all their hard work on Operation School Bell and Christmas Caravan
- To honor members for Years of Service Awards Committee, our goal was also to honor our members in certain years of service categories

The Knights of Columbus provided food and drink for our brunch and did an excellent job as usual. The tables were decorated with gold chargers and gold tinsel garland with a beautiful poinsettia placed in the center of each. Entertainment was provided by a soprano and her daughter.

Budget: \$0

Volunteer hours: 90

Hospitality

Chairman: Dee O'Grady

Judy Stowell, Carmen Draper, Susie Owens, Michelle Bare, Mary Anne David, Marti Welch, Kathy Vojtech, Pam Phillips, Marilyn Wedige, Christine Cates, Janette Nelsen, Liz Orrick, Judith James, Mindy Bechaz, Candi Pospisal, Diane Dugger and Trichel Jorgensen

Goals:

- Provide refreshments to the ALO members at all of the regular meetings
- Decorate for Holiday Brunch

In-kind donations: monthly treats

Volunteer hours: 110

Interest and Skills

Chairman: Kathy Valasek

Goals:

- Committee's goal was to receive 50% of the Interest and Skills survey forms back from the general membership. Percentage received was around 30%
- Create a spreadsheet to record member interests and skills requests
- Committees will be organized through the information that the members provided.
- Forms were printed, distributed and completed at the February meeting. Members were unable to complete additional forms at the March and April meeting due to COVID-19

restrictions. The forms were included in the weekly Blast for members to complete and send to the office.

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 12

Style Show & Luncheon

Chairman: Jan Jackson **Co-Chairman:** Ginger Hiscock

JoAnn Lutz, Cheryl Shetlar, Paula Spence, Maria Ortman, Carla Noerrlinger, Kathy David, Suzi Pierson, Diane Berzina, Nancy R. Johnson, Shirley Schmidt, Barb Schweiger, Lynn Perry, Cheryl Palmer, Linda Higa, Rita Crosland, Brenda Sanford, Jan Frank, Judy McPeck, Linda Goecke, Cindy Killip, Ginny Brown, Susie Owens, Linda Miller, Marilyn Mikula

Goals:

- Organize and produce an inspiring spring style show
Objective #1 was met through 7 months of careful planning from style show committees
- Encourage camaraderie among members
- Provide an opportunity for members to invite friends and possibly encourage guests to join ALO
- Objectives #2 and 3 did not happen because of the unfortunate cancellation of our style show due to coronavirus.

Meetings were held to organize style show committees. The theme was Garden Party and was scheduled for April 14th at the Champions Run Club. Retail stores were designated. The registration form and program was designed. Articles for the newsletter and Blast were prepared. The Style Show was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Expenses: \$0 due to cancellation

Volunteer hours: 321

Member Awards

Chairman: Barb Kasson

Linda Bannister, Judy Dappen, Nita Frost, Jan Jackson, Suzanne Hinman

Years of Service Award

Chairman: Sondra Bluma

Kathy Hitzemann, Jeannene Rossitto, Jan Zieg

Goals:

- Recognize honorees at the Annual Holiday Brunch. Make event a special occasion by sending personalized invitations to anniversary members, reserving special tables and recognizing honorees during the brunch.
- Honor voting and non-voting women who have been members for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40+ years

Expenses: \$277.48

Volunteer hours: 40

BRIDGE CLUB: (4th Monday 11:am-2:00pm)
Peggy McCord, Jan Jackson

MAH JONGG: (1st Thursday 6:30-8:30pm)
Kathy Rudd

MAH JONGG: (2nd Tuesday 12:00-2:00pm)
Sandy Pistone

BOOK CLUB: (3rd Tuesday afternoons of odd months)
Kathy Hitzemann, Teri Hickman

Marketing/Communications
Fourth Vice President Nancy Glasser

Leona Brakke, Terri Gangestad, Cynde Glismann, Barb Kasson, Charlene Liesveld, Sara Lorentzen, Linda Perkins

Goals:

- Promote Assistance League of Omaha and conduct a public relations campaign both within the chapter and for the public both in print and electronic media and through public speaking. Seek new media outlets for advertising.
- Proof and approve all media and correspondence presented to the public.
- Seek new media outlets for advertising

Budget: \$5,275

Volunteer hours: 1,152

Advisory Council

Chairman: Leona Brakke **Co-Chairman:** Barb Kasson

Goal:

- The goal of this committee is to work with a group of community leaders to formulate ideas and implement their suggestions that will increase the presence and the purpose of Assistance League of Omaha.

The 2019-2020 Community Advisory Council included John Heil (Attorney Baird Holm), Rebecca Kleeman (Communications Coordinator, Millard Public Schools), Mike Loeffler (Senior Director for External Affairs, Northern Natural Gas), Tracy Madden-McMahon (President & Chief Executive Officer, Methodist Hospital Foundation), Judie Olson (Fundraiser and Volunteer Work), Larry Uebner (Retired Banker, several community Boards), Dr. Christina Warner (Principal Franklin Elementary, Omaha Public Schools), Jerry Warner (Marketing Manager, Executive VP for Farmer's National Company).

Expenses: \$69.30 Meet & Greet Lunch
Board members attended at own expense

Volunteer hours: 55

Awards-Crystal Bell and Caring Hands

Chairman: Linda Perkins
Nancy Glasser, Linda Primm

Goals:

- The Crystal Bell Award is given to honor an individual or company who has given continued support to ALO through time, money and/or in-kind support or service. This award is usually presented at the Christmas Caravan Preview Party.
- The Caring Hands Award is presented to an individual, business or corporation having a family affiliation with Assistance League of Omaha, who has given on-going support through time, monetary contribution or in-kind service. This award is usually presented at the Christmas Caravan Preview Party.

The Crystal Bell Award recipient was John Heil. The Caring Hands Award recipient was Mary Espinosa. The awards were presented at the Christmas Caravan Preview Party.

Budget: \$200

Volunteer hours: 25

Caravan Media Relations

Chairman: Terri Gangestad
Nancy Glasser, Charlene Liesveld

Goals:

- Increase the coverage of advertising for Caravan. ie, Nextdoor and Facebook
- Through press releases, gain coverage by TV or newspaper
- Increase website sales of online tickets
- Increase visibility on Facebook

Multiple avenues for advertising Caravan were pursued. Postings were made on Community Calendars. Volunteers were solicited to place postings on Nextdoor. On line tickets were created. Press releases were sent, posts were placed on Facebook, and notices were placed in our BLAST prior to the Caravan event.

Budget: Marketing/Comunications

Volunteer hours: 212

In-kind donations: Ink, paper, half page in Womens Edition donated by CLC Landscapes

Speaker's Bureau

Chairman: Cynde Glismann

Goal:

- Increase visibility and name awareness in the community
- Increase Assistance League membership
- Highlight the unique features of Assistance League® of Omaha:
- ALO is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization.
- All fund-raising efforts and donations go to local children and adults; let donors know they are helping their neighbors.
- ALO reviews their philanthropic programs every two years (ALO is a research-based non-profit)

Revised and updated presentations. Followed community leads to secure speaking opportunities

Presentations were made at New Member orientation trainings, United Methodist Women's Group. Publicized Speaker's Bureau to ALO members. Updated presentations to members when needed. Personalized presentations to all groups.

In-kind donations: printing, ink

Volunteer hours: 40

Share Omaha
Chairman: Linda Perkins

Goal:

- Promote programs of the Assistance League of Omaha by advertising and soliciting donors and volunteers on the Share Omaha Website

The Share Omaha website was maintained and updated to provide opportunities for donors to connect with Assistance League.

Expense: \$0

Volunteer hours: 20

SUPPORT SERVICES
Fifth Vice President Cheryl Walker

Insurance
Chairman: LaVonne Lee

Goals:

- Make sure that all policies are updated and that we have the proper coverage for all properties and activities
- Make sure that Caravan and all ALO activities are run safely for patrons and staff and that procedures are in place should an accident occur
- Meet with Quinn Insurance to review policies and make any needed changes every two years
- Be sure all necessary policies are in place to ensure coverage of new building

Expenses: Insurance Premiums

Volunteer hours: 40

Office Manager
Chairman: Ann Mossberg

Goal:

- The Office Manager is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the Assistance League office.

Volunteer hours: 385

Office Staffing:

Chairman: Ann Mossberg

Building Manager: Barb Kasson

Jill Floth, Carol McCann, Elaine Penkava, Jan Zieg, Nita Frost, Rose Sheehy, June Denkinger, Annette Dowd, Nancy Holloran, Fran Witt, Peggy Johnson, Lynn Perry, Jan Sorensen, Linda Primm, Claudianna Todd, Nancy Cooke, Elaine Craig, Carmen Draper

Goals:

- The ALO office is to be staffed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:30 to 12:30.
- To relay messages to chairpersons or other members in order to fulfill request by the community

Volunteer hours: 370

Garden Committee

Chairman: Kathy Valasek

Kim Arter, Mary Kay Henningsen, Susan Lidolph, Geri Urban

Goals:

- To care for established plants on the property
- To control weeds and water plants
- To keep parking areas clear and weed free
- To replant and maintain the large pots
- To replace the plants in the pots with Christmas trees
- To direct Fall and Spring clean up

Changes that occurred: Bushes were cut out and a few plants were lost that were damaged by the heavy snow fall from winter of 2019. The sprinkler system needed repair on the east side, but the cost was going to be very expensive. Because we purchased the new building we felt the repair was not necessary. Fall clean-up was completed. Spring clean-up is postponed due to COVID-19.

Budget: \$0

Volunteer hours: 200

In-kind donations: plants for the flowerpots, existing canna bulbs will be replanted.

ALO Red Star Store Liaison

Jan Jackson

Goal:

- Order ALO bling shirts and magnetic name badges upon members' request

EDUCATION

Sixth Vice President Nita Frost

Circle Fund Chair: Carol McCann

Goal:

- Share with ALO members the mission of National Assistance League's Circle Fund.

- Inform membership of how it benefits our chapter and strengthens our ties to chapters across the nation.
- Collect contributions and send them to National.

Budget: \$0

Volunteer hours: 12

Historian
Chairman: Marla Bachus

Goals:

- Collect pictures and articles of ALO events to include in scrapbook
- Record major events with photographs and articles
- Display events in order of occurrence in a scrapbook

Budget: \$85

Volunteer hours: 30

New Member Trainers: JoAnn Lutz, Paula Spence
Assistant Trainers: Susie Owens, Judith Studt
VP Education: Nita Frost

Goals:

- To inform potential members of our philanthropic programs and our fund raising that helps support these programs
- To make the new members feel welcome and connected to each other and to the trainers and mentors
- To be intentional in presenting the work of the Thrift Shop

Two New Member Orientation classes were planned. The orientations involved 3 sessions each. The sessions consisted of an overview of ALO, getting to know each other, a review of information, and an introduction in the Thrift Shop.

Expenses: \$182.69

Volunteer hours: 425

In-kind donations: salads, other foods, printing, treats, postage, envelopes

New Member Advisor
Chairman: Nancy Cooke

Goals:

- Have new members fill out a database form for Database Chairman (Dorothea Brady) and for New Member Advisor (Nancy Cooke) to create a database for recording attendance and the monthly hours of each New Member until the ALO fiscal year ends.
- Assist in the New Member Orientation training sessions by making copies of all forms and the New Member Handbook. Help the New Member Orientation team where needed especially in the area of educating new members how to calculate and turn in volunteer hours.
- Take pictures (*or arrange for someone else to take) of new members and put on the computer in the Chapter House Office so they can be put in the ALO Yearbook.

- Inform the new members by email and reminders at orientation training sessions about the ALO regular meetings and special ALO events.
- Be available to answer any questions the new members may have by giving them an email and phone number for contact.

Expenses: folders

Volunteer hours: 70.5

STRATEGIC PLANNING
Seventh Vice President Carla Noerrlinger

Term Ends 2020	Kathy Brand, LaVonne Lee
Term Ends 2021	Carla Noerrlinger, Terri Gangestad
Term Ends 2022	Ginny Brown, Lynn Perry
President	Linda Primm
President-Elect	Betsy McDaniel

Goals:

- Review and update ALO Strategic Plan Goals and Strategies annually
- Develop new Strategic Action Plans for programs and events every two years
- Maintain ALO Transparency Seal, Platinum Level

All programs and events are to be evaluated through strategic planning every other year. Two areas that were scheduled for review this spring were postponed due to the COVID-19 health crisis (Assault Survivor Kits and Operation Teen Parent). Maintenance of Assistance League Omaha's GuideStar site, is updated yearly to maintain Platinum status. The programs reviewed this year were as follows:

- September Capital Campaign
- October Annual Campaign
Enrichment Day
- November ACT/PSAT Basic Review
- December Marketing and Communications
- January Style Show
Annual Meeting Celebration
- February Thrift Shop
- March Information Technology

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 347.5

In-kind donations: meeting room & coffee donated by Midland University Omaha location
paper, ink, folders

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Eighth Vice President Paula Peal

Blast: Jan Zieg

Newsletter: Dee O'Grady

Membership Roster: Dorothea Brady

Proofreaders: Betsy McDaniel, Sara Lorentzen, Kathy Hitzemann

Budget: \$5,100

Volunteer hours: 435

Membership Directory

Chairman: Nan Poore

Linda Primm, Betsy McDaniel, Cindy Killip, Suzanne Hinman, Cindy Hamm, Sondra Bluma, Sara Lorentzen, Jill Floth, Claudianna Todd, Dorothea and Carl Brady

Goal:

- To update the 2018 – 2019 Assistance League Yearbook with current information for 2019 – 2020. The yearbook will be distributed to the membership

380 yearbooks/rosters were printed and made ready for distribution to membership at the August Regular meeting. Preparation was done in stages: new information input, editing, printing for labels and stuffing envelopes for each member.

Expenses: \$556.23

Volunteer hours: 88

Nominating Committee

Chairman: Jeanne Smay

Susan Fleetwood, Lynda Chartier, Rita Crossland, Sara Lorentzen, Carla Noerrlinger, Brenda Sanford

Goal:

- Prepare and submit a slate of officers to be voted on by the membership of Assistance League of Omaha

Expenses: \$0

Volunteer hours: 118

In-kind donations: paper, refreshments, Community Room & coffee provided by NP Dodge Realty.

Finance Committee-Budget Preparation for 2020-2021

Chairman: Nancy Cooke

President

President-Elect

Voting Member

First Vice President, Philanthropic

Second Vice President, Resource Development

Fifth Vice President, Support Services

Seventh Vice President, Strategic Planning

Treasurer/Endowment Chairman

Assistant Treasurer

Linda Primm

Betsy McDaniel

Chris Haifley

Rosella Squires

Rita Crosland

Cheryl Walker

Carla Noerrlinger

Marilyn Chaney

Susan Fleetwood